

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-30

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S E C R E T ANKARA 6259

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - T E X T

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS:PFOR, TU, CY, GR
SUBJECT: CONTINUING CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS

REF: STATE 170679

1. I MET TODAY (AUG 6) WITH FONMIN GUNES AND CONVEYED ALL POINTS YOU OUTLINED IN REFTEL. I PARTICULARLY EMPHASIZED YOUR VIEW THAT GROWING ACCUMULATION OF TURKISH CEASEFIRE AND OTHER INCIDENTS WAS MAKING IT INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT FOR FRIENDS OF TURKEY TO BE HELPFUL.

2. IN RESPONSE GUNES READILY ADMITTED THAT "REGRETTABLE INCIDENTS" CONTINUING TO OCCUR ON CYPRUS. THERE WAS A BASIC REASON FOR THIS HE EXPLAINED, NAMELY THAT NO BUFFER ZONE AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED AT GENEVA AND THEREFORE THAT THE TWO FORCES REMAIN FACE-TO-FACE. HE SAID THAT THESE INCIDENTS WERE NOT WANTED BY THE GOT AND HE EMPHASIZED GOT BELIEF THAT IT REAPING NEITHER MILITARY

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NOR POLITICAL BENEFITS FROM THEM.

3. GUNES THEN OUTLINED CURRENT GREEK TACTICS AS SEEN THROUGH GOT EYES. HE SAID THAT AT GENEVA, GREECE HAD WANTED TO HAVE THE FOCUS OF ATTENTION ONLY ON HALTING THE TURKISH ADVANCE AND BRINGING ABOUT A CEASEFIRE. AT TURKISH INSISTENCE, HOWEVER, THE GENEVA DECLARATION ENCOMPASSED SIGNIFICANTLY MORE THAN JUST THE CEASEFIRE CALLED FOR IN ARTICLE II. GUNES ASSERTED THAT CONTINUOUS FLOW OF GREEK COMPLAINTS RE VIOLATIONS OF CEASEFIRE ARE A CALCULATED EFFORT TO ACHIEVE ON WORLD STAGE WHAT GOG WAS UNABLE TO ACHIEVE AT GENEVA, NAMELY A FOCUS OF WORLD ATTENTION ON CEASEFIRE ONLY.

4. TO ILLUSTRATE THIS POINT, GUNES CITED THE LACK OF ATTENTION TO ARTICLE II (B) WHICH CALLS FOR EVACUATION OF TURKISH ENCLAVES BY GREEKS AND GREEK CYPRIOTS. GREEKS HAD SUCCESSFULLY DIVERTED WORLD ATTENTION AWAY FROM THIS ARTICLE. SO FAR ABSOLUTELY NOTHING HAD BEEN DONE TO ENFORCE IT AND UNFICYP COMMANDER, ACCORDING TO GUNES, SAYS HE HAS NO INSTRUCTIONS FROM NEW YORK ON THE SUBJECT.

5. DESPITE THIS GUNES ASKED ME TO ASSURE YOU THAT GOT DOING ALL IT CAN TO PREVENT VIOLATIONS OF CEASEFIRE. HE SAID THAT ALL TURKISH COMMANDERS ON ISLAND HAVE SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS NOT TO OPEN FIRE -- INCLUDING NOT TO OPEN FIRE WHEN FIRED UPON. I INTERRUPTED SOMEWHAT ABRUPTLY AT THIS POINT, TO ASK IF SUCH INSTRUCTIONS HAD SPECIFICALLY GONE TO TURKISH FORCES IN THE LAPITHOS/KARAVAS AREA. GUNES REPLIED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE.

6. GUNES SAID THAT HE WAS AWARE THAT GREEKS WERE MAKING MUCH PROGRESS IN THEIR EFFORT (A) TO PROMOTE VIEW IN WORLD PUBLIC OPINION THAT TURKEY IS TO BLAME FOR MOST OF THE INCIDENTS AND (B) THAT ARTICLE II IS THE ENTIRE GENEVA DECLARATION. "THIS IS NOT A STRATEGY THAT WE LIKE," HE SAID, "BUT IT MAY BE SUCCESSFUL." HE ADDED THAT IF EVEN TURKEY'S FRIENDS COME TO BELIEVE THERE IS NOTHING TO GENEVA DECLARATION EXCEPT ARTICLE II, THEN THERE WILL BE NO HOPE OF SUCCESS AT NEXT ROUND AT GENEVA.

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7. I ASSURED FONMIN THAT USG RECOGNIZED THAT GENEVA DECLARATION MADE UP OF MORE THAN ONE ARTICLE. I AGAIN EMPHASIZED HOWEVER DAMAGE TURKISH VIOLATIONS DOING, AND I REITERATED NEED IN THIS REGARD FOR TURKEY TO DO MORE TO HELP ITS FRIENDS TO BE HELPFUL TO IT.

8. COMMENT: IT IS HARD TO JUDGE WITH ACCURACY DEGREE TO WHICH GOT DISSEMBLING WHEN IT DENIES AUTHORIZATION FOR

CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS. SELF-PERSUASION, LACK OF REAL KNOWLEDGE AS TO WHAT IS TAKING PLACE ON THE GROUND, GENERAL CONFUSION, AND ITCH TO GET LAST MINUTE MILITARY ADVANTAGE, ALL GO INTO EQUATION WHICH IS VERY DIFFICULT TO READ.

9. IN ANY EVENT,FONMIN TOOK CONSIDERABLE CARE TO SPELL OUT INTERPRETATION OF CURRENT GREEK STRATEGY OF CONCENTRATING

ATTENTION ON ARTICLE II ONLY, AND MY GUESS IS THAT GUNES' COMMENTS WILL CONSTITUTE AN IMPORTANT PART OF TURKS' PARTY LINE IN DAYS IMMEDIATELY AHEAD. WE ARE ALSO SEEING THEM INCREASE THE TEMPO OF THEIR COUNTER-CHARGES REGARDING TORTURE, PLUNDER, AND "OTHER INHUMAN TREATMENT".

10. FINALLY, MANY TURKS ARE BEGINNING TO SENSE BUILD-UP OF WORLD PUBLIC OPINION AGAINST THEM. THEY NOT, OF COURSE, PREPARED TO CONCEDE THAT THIS JUSTIFIED BY TURKISH ACTIONS ON ISLAND. ONE HEARS INSTEAD ASSERTION THAT GREEKS ALWAYS WERE

MORE ADROIT AT PUBLIC RELATIONS THAN TURKS,AND THAT NOW FIGHTING IS OVER TURKS AS USUAL ARE BEGINNING TO BE OUT-TALKED. MACOMBER

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